

News Briefs

Testing schedule
The Education Services Flight offers testing on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Everyone who tests must arrive a few minutes early for sign-in. Anyone who is late will not be permitted to test and will have to reschedule. For more information, or to sign up to take a test, call Ext. 2562.

Holocaust Remembrance Day
Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science and Mississippi University for Women are sponsoring a Holocaust Remembrance Day Tuesday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Nissan Auditorium in Parkinson Hall. For more information, call Julie Heintz at 241-7843.

Take back the night
The base Sexual Assault Response Coordinator and Victim Advocates will have a walk for the fight against Sexual Assault. The walk will start at the base Fitness Center Thursday at 8:30 pm. For more information call the SARC at Ext. 1130 or Ext. 2875.

Relocation assistance
Those relocating or making a permanent change of station can stop by the family support center for information about new bases, checklists to make moving easier and suggestions for traveling with children.

Inside



FEATURE **8**
MIA pilot burial solves two mysteries



Airman 1st Class Alyssa Miles
Maj. Gen. Marc Rogers spoke with members of the Columbus AFB Honor Guard in the newly renovated Montgomery Village during his visit to Columbus AFB. This was Genereal Rogers' first time visiting the base.

19th AF commander visits Columbus AFB
Airman 1st Class Alyssa Miles
14th Flying Training Wing

Maj. Gen. Marc Rogers visited Columbus AFB for the first time Tuesday through Thursday. General Rogers, 19th Air Force commander, is responsible for training more than 2,000 U.S. and allied students, including the student pilots training here. "I'm delighted to finally see Columbus," General Rogers said. "This was one of the few places in the Air Force that I hadn't seen, and I'm happy with the way that this base is

executing its mission." Not only was General Rogers pleased with the base, but he was also impressed with the support from the local Columbus community. "We couldn't execute the mission without the support of the community," he said. "We depend on them for public safety, security, health and the welfare of our families." Judging from his prior military experience including positions such as the director of both the Standing Joint Forces Headquarters and Capabilities Integration Headquarters, General Rogers believes that Air Education and Training Command is a prominent Air Force leader. "When you look at what's ahead of us as a nation with the Global War on Terror, the training function is as important now as it's ever been in history. It's hard to find a more noble mission," General Rogers said. Before his departure, General Rogers left a few special words for the BLAZE TEAM. "Keep doing what you're doing, and be proud of it," he said. "Without this mission, we would not be successful in this war on terror. You are the A-Team."

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE									
PHASE II				PHASE III				WING SORTIE BOARD	
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required
37th (07-02)	0.51 days	2.20 days	May 12	48th (06-08)	1.72 days	1.55 days	April 28	T-37	1679
41st (07-01)	2.87 days	-0.44 days	Today	50th (06-08)	2.46 days	2.05 days	April 28	T-38C	809
								T-1A	702
									Flown
									Annual
									1814
									827
									759
									17031
									7626
									7424
Graduation speaker: Graduation speaker: Brig. Gen. Ronald Ladhier									

Welcome to the TEAM

Airman 1st Class Alyssa Miles
Columbus AFB welcomes its newest troops and graduates of the First Term Airman's Center. Pictured are from left to right (front): Airman Alexandria Hunt, 14th Operations Group; Airman Sierra Gibson, 14th OG; class leader Airman 1st Class Scott Hopkins 14th Communications Squadron; Airman Jennifer Rice, 48th Flying Training Squadron; Airman Jessica Kerr, 14th Medical Support Squadron; (back): sharp troop award winner Airman 1st Class Kevin Callender, 14th CS; Airman 1st Class Robbie Hetterick, 14th CS; Airman Jamil Fitts, 14th Medical Operations Squadron; Airman Antonio Savage, 50th FTS; Tech. Sgt. Brian Bailey, FTAC NCOIC.

Mosquito look-alikes: Pests, but not harmful
Airman 1st Class Charles Filkins
14th Medical Operations Squadron

These new pests are called crane flies. Crane Flies (Tipulidae) are in the family of insects resembling giant mosquitoes. They're sometimes mistaken for mosquitoes because of some of the nicknames they have, like "mosquito eaters", "mosquito hawks", or "skeeter eaters". Crane flies are weak and pretty poor fliers, which make them easy to catch or swat with a fly-swatter. They don't bite at all, and in fact, an adult crane fly may not even eat during its lifespan – which is about six weeks. Its sole purpose is to mate and lay eggs, which will develop all summer and hatch in the very early spring. Crane flies do all of their eating during four larval stages, when they feed on plant roots and other vegetation. Crane flies love damp environments with abundant vegetation. They thrive in areas around fresh water, decaying wood, mud and decaying plants. A good way to lower the numbers of crane flies is to make sure there is no standing water in the yard. This helps reduce mosquito populations as well.

The Air Force Innovative Development through Employee Awareness Program recognizes and rewards good ideas. Individuals, teams or groups can submit ideas on how the Air Force can accomplish something faster, better or cheaper at <https://ipds.mont.disa.mil>. People can save the Air Force money and earn cash rewards for their ideas. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Rhonda Knipmeyer at Ext. 2354.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, **31 BLAZE TEAM members are deployed** world-wide.

Remember to support the troops and their families while they are away.

SILVER WINGS

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2427.

AETC announces outstanding Airmen of 2005

Tech. Sgt. Mike Hammond
Air Education and Training Command

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas -- Air Education and Training Command has announced its top Airmen of 2005. The winners were chosen from among 29 nominees identified by leadership at their home stations as the best professionals in their categories.

“The announcement of the AETC Outstanding Airmen of the Year is the culmination of a rigorous, highly competitive selection process to identify the best of the best in our command,” explained Chief Master Sgt. Rodney Ellison, AETC command chief master sergeant.

“Each winner embodies personal and professional qualities we hold dear: leadership, technical expertise, tireless work ethic, personal and professional integrity,” Sergeant Ellison said.

After reviewing nomination packages and conducting a final selection board,

AETC officials selected a winner in each of six categories. The AETC Outstanding Airmen of the Year for 2005 are:

Senior Noncommissioned Officer:
Senior Master Sgt. Patrick L. Wilson – Lackland Air Force Base, Texas;

Noncommissioned Officer:
Tech. Sgt. William J. Byrd – Keesler AFB, Miss.;

Airman:
Senior Airman Elizabeth Sewell – Vance AFB, Okla.;

First Sergeant:
Master Sgt. Michael J. Dorzio – Lackland AFB, Texas;

Honor Guard Manager:
Tech. Sgt. Herman Ybarra – Lackland AFB, Texas;

Honor Guard Member:
Senior Airman Andrea L. Stegall – Columbus AFB, Miss.

“These Airmen are fine examples to their peers and outstanding ambassadors



Melissa Peterson

Gen. William Looney, far left, Air Education and Training Command commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Rodney Ellison, AETC command chief master sergeant, far right, stand with the 2005 AETC Outstanding Airmen of the Year. The winners were announced during a banquet in San Antonio April 7, honoring nominees and winners.

for the Air Force to all they meet,” said Chief Ellison. “I am proud to serve with them and offer my sincere congratula-

tions on a job well done. I also wish them continued success in the Air Force-level competition!”

Retraining Airmen must comply by May 15 or face separation

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas - To meet the Fiscal 2006 Noncommissioned Officer Retraining Program objectives for 30 undermanned Air Force Specialty Codes, Airmen identified as retraining eligible must complete their retraining packages by May 15.

Nearly 1,100 Airmen who have not completed their administrative requirements face separation if they fail to comply with this Air Force policy.

“It’s critical the Air Force balances the enlisted corps across all Air Force specialties to meet its mission requirements,” said Maj. Gen. Tony Przybyslawski, Air Force Personnel Center commander here. “The NCO Retraining Program is a vital tool to ensure the Air

Force has experienced NCOs serving in all career fields.” Airmen who decline retraining must separate on their current date of separation or when their term of service expires. They are ineligible for promotion, voluntary assignment consideration and reenlistment or extensions for the remainder of their enlistment. Declination may preclude Airmen from enlisting in another service branch or into the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard. In addition, the Air Force will not score promotion tests for Airmen who tested as of May 15 and declined retraining.

“Airmen must commit to retrain now, because those who wait too long will be separated,” said Col. Kurt

Pfitzner, chief of the personnel process and development division at AFPC.

The two-phased Fiscal 2006 NCORP is a multi-purpose program designed to rebalance the enlisted force by moving NCOs from career fields with overages to those skills experiencing manpower shortages. It included a voluntary retraining phase that ended in October and an involuntary phase which began Nov. 30 and is still in effect. To date, the Air Force has only retrained 442 Airmen toward the Air Staff goal of 1,069.

For more information regarding retraining policy, Airmen should contact their base military personnel flight or major command retraining office.

Straight Talk Line

The Straight Talk Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better.

Although the Straight Talk Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain of command.

The Straight Talk Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their full name and phone number to receive an answer.

All names are kept confidential. Messages are answered in Silver Wings without names.

Written questions may be dropped off at the public affairs office in the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 724.

People can also access the Straight Talk program through the Blazeweb at <https://columbusweb> and the main Web site at www.columbus.af.mil. Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.

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To subscribe e-mail: join-panc_newslink@mercury.afnews.af.mil

Look out below

2nd Lt. Jason Eichenberg

Master Sgt. Curtis Chiles, 14th Medical Operations Squadron Aerospace Physiology, supervises as members of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 07-08 practice parachute landing falls. Columbus AFB annually trains about 450 new military pilots for America and its allies.

Military children serve country, too

Army Sgt. Sara Wood
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Children in military families make sacrifices and serve their country as much as anyone in uniform does, the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff said.

“In so many loving ways, our children quietly shoulder part of the burden, making their mom or dad understand that what they are doing is important,” said Marine Gen. Peter Pace.

Military parents often have to miss holidays and special occasions, and children are left home to worry while parents go on difficult missions, General Pace said. Military families also have to move every two or three years, making the children uproot, change schools and say goodbye to friends, he said.

“There’s no way, in my mind, that you can be successful in the military and have a family unless that family does, in fact, appreciate your service to the country,” he said.

Because military children have to transition and adapt a lot, they gain great life experience and maturity, General Pace said. He recognized that, as teenagers, his own children were much more worldly than he was at that age, because he spent his entire childhood in his hometown.

“I think that, in the main, growing up in a military



Senior Airman Cecilia Rodriguez

Julian Wallace, 4, and Airman 1st Class Everett Cooper, 14th Mission Support Squadron, smile for the camera.

family strengthens the individual,” he said.

In honor of April’s observance of the Month of the Military Child, the general recently wrote a letter to military children, thanking them for their patience, understanding, courage and support.

(Editor’s note: *For more information about activities held in recognition of April’s Month of the Military Child, call the family support center at Ext. 2790, the youth center at Ext. 2504 or the child development center at Ext. 2479.)*

Mental health screening offered to military, families

Military members and families coping with the stress of overseas deployments and other potential health-threatening issues can log onto the Internet to get help, said a U.S. military psychologist.

Servicemembers from all components and their families can obtain a mental health self-assessment or screening through a Web site co-sponsored by the Department of Defense and Screening for Mental Health Inc., a nonprofit organization, said Col. (Dr.) Joyce Adkins, a psychologist with the Force Health Protection and Readiness directorate at the Defense Department’s Health Affairs office.

“The (online) screening actually gets you to where you need to be in terms of counseling,” Dr. Adkins said. “Once you do one of the screening checklists, it will give you the benefits that are available to you.”

The Web site was brought online in January, and can be found at <http://www.mentalhealthscreening.org/military/index.aspx>. The link is in the upper right corner of the Web page under “Click for anonymous self assessment.”

The site augments other DOD mental health assistance resources, Dr. Adkins said. People logged onto the site are asked to answer a series of questions. The program “grades” the completed survey, Dr. Adkins said, and gives people an evaluation of their present mental health and provides assistance resources, if deemed necessary.

Other DOD-endorsed health sites tell customers how to access mental health counseling services, but do not provide an online mental health screening program, Dr. Adkins said.

National Guard and Reserve members returning from overseas deployments also are authorized to use the Web site, Dr. Adkins said. Returning Reserve-component members have two years of health benefits provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

“And, it’s totally free to them,” the colonel said.

Such services are especially important now because of the potential stressful effects deployments can have on both military and family members, Dr. Adkins said.

“It’s a concern that people don’t understand what their thoughts and feelings mean as they come back from deployment,” Dr. Adkins said. “As they re-integrate with their families there may be conflict in the family that’s not easily resolved.”

The mental health screening Web site and other related programs available to servicemembers and their families provide “a level of benefits and a level of service to help them understand what services are available to them for mental health issues,” Dr. Adkins said. *(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)*

DUI status

“Don’t Drink and Drive”

Last DUI: March 5, 2006

Days since last DUI: 47

Unit: 14th Civil Engineer Squadron

Do you have your priorities in order?

Lt. Col. David Hammack
48th Flying Training Squadron

As a commander, setting priorities is a primary concern. Family time, projects, appointments, flying, church, recreation... The things we deem important take time out of our busy schedules. Appropriate prioritization is a subject I try to mentor my Airmen on deal with every day.

What are your priorities? This question sounds simple, but it does require some thought. You must know what is truly important before one priority can be put in front of another. We must balance family time, recreation, work and a world of other things. Plan and know ahead of

time what your priorities are. You can start by making a list of tasks and people you deal with on a day-to-day basis.

Once you have an idea of what is important, address higher priorities first. These can change, based on what is happening. If a report is due tomorrow, now might not be the time to do something else. One temptation is to give a higher priority to something you enjoy doing, even if something you don't enjoy should be done first.

Sometimes doing the right thing is hard. Secondly, we've all heard the phrase, "Don't do tomorrow what you can do today." Procrastination is anathema. It only creates more stress if you wait to accomplish things.

Finally, you may not need to do it today if the task is not a high enough priority.

For example, don't assign a task to others or expect it to get done without adequate time to accomplish it. Planning ahead is key to prioritizing. If you don't plan ahead, don't expect others to drop everything to work on your project, especially if it's outside your organization. Avoid the "crisis" mentality and plan ahead. Give others the respect of ample notice where possible. Don't impose a procrastination problem onto them.

One of our priorities should involve perspective. We need time for recreation and reflection. Questions you might ask yourself are: Are my priorities in order? If not, what am I going to do about it? Some constructive self-criticism is always healthy to determine where you can make

improvements. Sometimes life gets in the way and we have to take stock of our situation and re-prioritize. Hold yourself accountable to the people that are important to you.

Priorities help establish purpose. We're highly effective people when we have our priorities straight. We're happier and more organized. We have a feel for what's important right now instead of what's really not important at all. As a result, we can be more effective in our personal and professional lives as officers, NCOs and Airmen. Do you know what your priorities really are? Do they include enough time for family and recreation? If your priorities are out of balance, what are you going to do about it?

CAFB recognizes national child abuse prevention month

Tanya Marazzo
14th Medical Operations Squadron

During calendar year 2004, the Mississippi Department of Human Services received 17,088 reports of suspected child abuse and neglect. Of those reported cases, 185 of them were right here in Columbus. We, as a base community are ultimately responsible for the safety and well being of our children. Community support and vigilance is imperative in the prevention of child abuse.

According to Dr. Mario Mercado, Columbus AFB's sexual assault response coordinator, there were more than 50 reported cases of child sexual assault in Columbus during 2005. National statistical data indicates that 82 percent to 84 percent of child sexual assault cases are not reported. That means that there were likely approximately 200 local cases of child sexual assault that were not reported. And, those statistics do not include the other three categories of abuse: Emotional and verbal abuse, physical abuse and neglect. Educating ourselves about child abuse begins by

acknowledging that abuse and neglect exist within our community. Once we acknowledge the abuse, we need to know what we can do to prevent and stop the abuse. Several programs and entities exist on base to help those who are experiencing or suspect child abuse. It is the role of each one of us to guide families and individuals to the help that is available to them here at Columbus AFB.

The base chapel offers completely confidential counseling to parents and families. Chapel personnel are not certified to provide therapy; however, they can provide a referral to help a person find appropriate counseling.

The chapel staff can also offer advice on how to take appropriate counseling. The chapel staff can also offer advice on how to take appropriate action should you be directly involved in abuse or have seen an incident of abuse take place.

The Family Support Center provides a variety of educational tools to assist parents in gaining and improving parenting skills. They offer educational parenting material, to include books, tapes, worksheets and videos for check-out. They also offer self-improvement classes such as

anger management, parenting and stress reduction.

Family Advocacy, located in the Life Skills Support Center provides intervention and treatment services for families involved in an abusive incident or abusive relationships. They offer strength-based therapy to persons at risk for spousal maltreatment or child maltreatment.

FA also offers a one-time informational referral session to assess the need for services for those who are unsure if they require further counseling. No official record is kept of this session. They also provide an outreach program with the goal being to increase parenting skills, family cohesiveness, mission readiness, and to reduce social isolation for the prevention of family violence.

The outreach program provides educational programs on parenting, stress management, marital issues and information for the identification and prevention of child abuse. For more information, call the base chapel at Ext. 2500, the FSC at Ext. 2631 or FA at Ext. 2197. If you suspect or witness child abuse, call the Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-222-8000 or call FA.

Volunteering helps give purpose and focus in life, intersets

Shirley Pinckney
14th Mission Support Squadron

Volunteering can give you a purpose and focus in life, as well as new friendships and new interests. For people who work, it's a much-needed change of pace. For retirees, it's a way to keep active and even an aid to living longer. Volunteering provides countless opportunities to excel. Learning new skills, keeping old skills fresh, building and maintaining a professional network, and personal satisfaction are just a few.

National Volunteer Week began 1974

when President Richard Nixon signed an executive order establishing the week as an annual celebration of volunteering. During this 32nd annual National Volunteer Week Sunday through April 29, we would like to recognize the hard work and dedication of the many volunteers at Columbus AFB. This week's theme is, "Inspire By Example" because it truly reflects the power volunteers have to inspire the people they help, as well as to inspire others to serve.

What would our lives be like, what would our community and our nation be like, without neighbors helping neigh-

bors? Volunteers are the helping hand and human face of private and individual enterprise. They are the conscience of our society. They are thoughtful, committed citizens who continue to change our world-one activity at a time. Part of the volunteer world is right here at Columbus AFB, where people like Daisy Lebron, Patricia Wilson, Amanda Penrod and Mary Medly are making a difference. These four ladies were nominated by their peers and are the recipients of the 2006 Volunteer Excellence Award. This award is presented with a medal and certificate. The medal is an

original design and the "V" symbolizes volunteer, the background is the Air Force shield/symbol. General T. Michael Moseley, Air Force Chief of Staff, signed the accompanying certificate. This award is to be presented to an individual who performs outstanding volunteer community service of a sustained, direct and consequential nature.

The volunteer service must be significant in character, produce tangible results and reflect favorably on the United States Air Force. **(Editor's note: Information for this article was gathered from Points of Light.)**

MIA pilot burial solves two mysteries

Master Sgt. Orville Desjarlais Jr.
Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO — It's not every day delegates from China attend a lieutenant's funeral in North Carolina, or that four A-10 Thunderbolt IIs fly overhead in a missing-man formation, or 300 people show up without having ever met the Air Force pilot. Even a congressman made an appearance.

But 2nd Lt. Robert Upchurch wasn't just any pilot. Although his death remained a mystery for 61 years, his memory stayed alive — in two countries — that entire time.

Lieutenant Upchurch was a P-40 Warhawk pilot with the Flying Tigers. They protected the Chinese by fighting along its Burma border during World War II.

On Oct. 6, 1944, the lieutenant took off from Kanchow, China, on his first mission with the Flying Tigers. After completing the strafing mission, they started home. They flew into bad weather en route.

First Lt. Robert Gibeault, a fellow pilot, said in an official report that he had last seen Lieutenant Upchurch climbing through overcast skies dangerously close to some mountains.

The rest of the flight turned back and tried a different route than the one attempted by Lieutenant Gibeault and Lieutenant Upchurch. Later, Chinese officials reported a plane had crashed and burned at Shang Pau Has, and that pilot and plane identification was impossible.

Since there was no means of identification, the Army Air Force wasn't certain it was Lieutenant Upchurch and listed him as missing in action.

In 1945, eight months after the fatal crash, Flying Tigers Chaplain Albert Buckley wrote a disheartening letter to the lieutenant's parents.

"I believe it is only right to tell you that the outlook is not at all favorable or encouraging, particularly in view of the fact that your son has been missing since last October," the chaplain wrote. "It has been our experience that when a pilot lands safely in free China, even though he might be injured, we receive notification from the Chinese in a comparatively short time. Such a report has never been received on your loving son."

In October 1945, the Army Air Force presumed Lieutenant Upchurch dead.

Chinese side of the story

Meanwhile, in Guidong County of the Hunan Province in China, villagers buried the pilot in Chinese tradition, wrapping him in a red cloth and setting off firecrackers, according to a Chinese newspaper report.

Although the villagers never knew the identity of the pilot they buried, they never forgot him.

"Over the past 60 years, the people of Guidong County, have quietly watched and tended the grave of Lieutenant Upchurch, who has been a hero commanding their highest respect and a symbol in their mind for everlasting pursuit of peace," said Haung Renzhun, a



Master Sgt. Jack Braden

Jia Xiudong, representing the Chinese Embassy in Washington, D.C., reads a letter from Huang Renzhun during memorial services for 2nd Lt. Robert Hoyle Upchurch. Lieutenant Upchurch was a member of the famed Flying Tigers during World War II and was listed as missing in action until his remains were identified last May by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command. In his letter, Mr. Huang tells how, as a young boy, he remembered the body of an American pilot being recovered and given a ceremonial burial in the village of Guidong, Hunan Province. The villagers maintained the burial site more than 60 years until Lieutenant Upchurch's remains were returned to the U.S.

representative from the Foreign Affairs Office of the Hunan Provincial Government.

Mr. Renzhun said that every year during "Tomb-Sweeping Day," local students and citizens voluntarily came to pay their respects and lay wreaths and flowers at the tomb of the unknown pilot. The grave was well-maintained until May 2005, the date they discovered his identity.

Pilot's identity revealed

In May 2005, a task force from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command in Hawaii conducted investigation operations in three Chinese provinces for about 30 days.

World War II left more than 78,000 MIAs, many of those in the Pacific, and the team was investigating four of them.

At what is now Santi Park in Guidong County, team members recovered possible human remains, personal effects and life support equipment. The monument there simply read "American Pilot."

Later that year, the task force identified his remains by comparing them to DNA samples collected from the Upchurch family that remained, which were mostly second-generation nephews and nieces.

After 61 years, the Upchurch family finally learned of the whereabouts of their uncle, and the people of Hunan Province discovered the name of their hero.

"Moore County of North Carolina was where this great fighter grew up, and my hometown, Guidong County of Hunan Province, was where he rested in peace for decades," Mr. Renzhun said during Lieutenant Upchurch's funeral on April 8 in High Falls, N.C.

"Lieutenant Upchurch is one of the bravest American pilots and a hero in the worldwide war against fascism," Mr. Renzhun said. "He assisted the Chinese people in the fight against the Japanese and sacrificed his young and precious life. On behalf of the 67 million people of Hunan Province ... our government wishes to take this opportunity to pay high tribute to Lieutenant Upchurch."

North Carolina Governor Michael Easley wrote in a letter to the family: "Lieutenant Upchurch gave his life for his country and is a true hero. Without hesitation, he fought to preserve and defend the ideals for which this great nation stands."

In the end, the Chinese lost a hero, while High Falls buried one.

BLAZE TEAM member ‘pins down’ perfect score

Pam Wickham
14th Services Division

Charles Fiske, 19, was bowling with friends when he rolled a perfect 300 score in the second game and he did it again in the seventh game.

He bowled 17 games that day.

“Since these perfect games were rolled during practice and not during league play, Charles is not eligible for any United States Bowling Congress awards, but it is only a matter of time before he will receive that 300 ring,” said Richard Christie, bowling center manager.

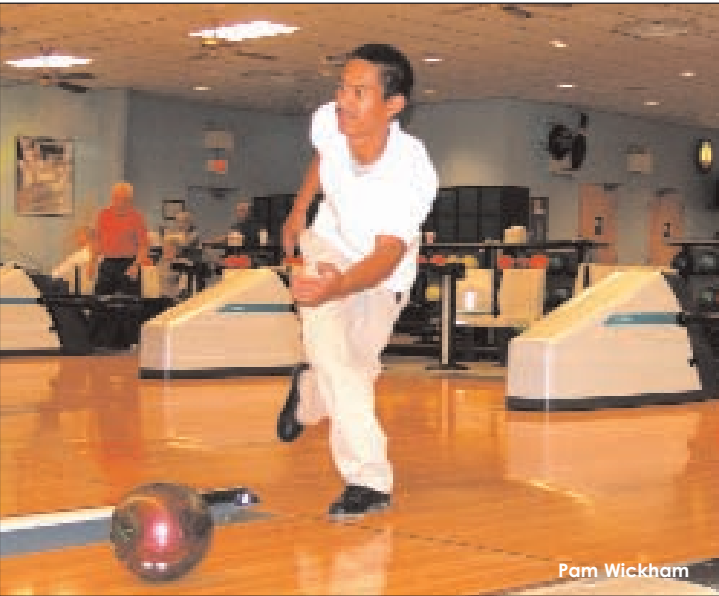
Fiske has been bowling since he was four years old and has been a member of the Columbus AFB youth league for four years. With a 168 average for the league,

his highest score in league play was a 268. This is his last year as a member of the youth league. He plans to join an adult league for the next winter season.

Fiske hopes to join the Professional Bowling Association and become a professional bowler. In order to accomplish that goal, he must average no less than 200 in a bowling league and place in the top five in the regional bowling championship.

He is a recreation aid and mechanic for the bowling center but is planning to go to Wyo Tech Automotive School in Santa Maria, Calif. in the next two years.

The Columbus AFB bowling center has only had five perfect 300 games rolled during league play with the first being in the early 1960s and the last in October 2005.



In one day, nineteen year old Charles Fiske rolled two perfect scores out of 17 games at the base bowling center. Fiske has an average of 168 with the Columbus AFB youth league, and a high score of 268 with the league.

Services offers many activities for BLAZE TEAM

Country night at the bowling center: The bowling center is offering a country no-tap bowling tournament at 7 p.m. tonight. Entry is \$10 per person and includes bowling, prize fund and a Frito pie. Call Ext. 2426.

Adult beginners golf clinic: Register at the pro shop for this one day clinic to learn the fundamentals of golf. Cost is \$5 and will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday. Equipment is provided, if needed. Call Ext. 7932 for more information.

Secretaries day lunch special: The Columbus Club is offering bosses a chance to take their secretaries to lunch at the club and the secretaries' lunch is half price Wednesday. Call Ext. 2490 for more information.

Home decor classes: The arts and crafts center offer three classes in May. Make a hall tree in the class May 4. Cost is \$50 and includes all supplies. Project size is 43 inches wide by 70 inches high x 18 inches deep. Register by Thursday.

Make a stackable storage cube for \$20 in the class May 11. Cube is 18 inches wide by 18 inches high x 18 inches deep. Register by May 4 for this class.

Make a room divider for \$50 May 17. Cost is \$50 and includes all supplies. Project size is 72 inches wide by 72 inches high by 3.5 inches deep. Register by May 10 for this class. All classes are offered at 10 a.m. or 6 p.m. Call Ext. 7836 for more information.

Services hours:The following Services activities will be open Monday, April 24: the Fitness Center from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., the Daily Grind from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the golf course from 7 a.m. to dusk, the bowling center from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., the child development center from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., the arts and crafts

center from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., the library from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., outdoor recreation from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Magnolia Inn is open 24/7 and the youth center from 4 to 8 p.m. All other Services activities will be closed. Call Ext. 2337 for more information.

Chill out at the Daily Grind: The Daily Grind, located in the Fitness Center, offers Starbucks coffees and beverages as well as soft serve with fresh fruit, granola and various toppings. The Daily Grind is open Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon. Call Ext. 2772.

Breakfast burritos: The bowling center's breakfast burrito trucks delivers breakfast burritos weekdays from 6:30 to 9 a.m. with stops at the 37th, 41st, 50 FTS, Dyncorp, OSS, 48 FTS, CE housing, CE/Services Building, and Military Personnel building. Call Ext. 2426 for more information.

Boss and buddy night: The Columbus Club offers an all-ranks boss and buddy night from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Landing Lounge. A free taco bar is available for club members and nonmembers pay \$3.95. Wings are 25-cents each for club members and 50-cents for nonmembers from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Beverage specials are also available. For more information, call Ext. 2490.

Quick shot bingo: The club offers this program during lunch at the Columbus Club, during the Boss and Buddy Thursday nights in the Landing and from 5 to 6 p.m. Fridays at the Enlisted Lounge. Cost is \$1 per card and pays from \$3 to \$1,000 for winning combinations. Call Ext. 2490.

The bowling center also offers their own version of quick shot bingo which pays from \$5 to \$500 for a winning combination. Cost is \$1 per card. Play anytime the bowl-

ing center is open. Call Ext. 2425 for more information.

Club membership drive: Don't miss out on the weekly club membership drawings for \$20 in club bucks. Join the club today. Drawings are held every Monday. On or about May 31 there will be two drawings for a \$250 club credit. One for new members enrolling during the membership drive and one for all current members. Call Ext. 2489.

Crafts classes: The arts and crafts center's upcoming crafts classes feature seasonal projects. Adult classes are at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays. Upcoming classes include a wooden patchwork heart hanging, a three-piece jewelry set, and a patio stone using a paver.

The youth classes are offered Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Upcoming classes include a puzzle piece picture frame, a welcome spring sign for the door and a Mother's day gift.

A display of all projects is available in the arts and crafts lobby.

Participants must register at least four days prior to the class date. Call Ext. 7836 for more information.

National oatmeal cookie day: The bowling center offers four oatmeal cookies for \$1 April 30. Stop in to take advantage of this special.

New lunch buffet offered Fridays: The Columbus Club's all-you-can-eat lunch buffet changes their Friday menu starting May 5. The Friday menu will feature Southern fried catfish, country fried steak with gravy, golden cut corn, cole slaw, garden green salad, fried hush puppies, seasoned new potatoes and assorted home baked cakes. Cost is \$5.50 per person and includes a beverage. Call Ext. 2490.

Chapel Schedule

Catholic

Sunday:
9:15 a.m. — Mass
10:30 a.m. — CCD
5 p.m. — Confessions
5:30 p.m. — SUPT Mass
Tuesday:

Protestant

Sunday:
10:45 a.m. — Combined Traditional and Contemporary worship at chapel service at the chapel sanctuary
Monday:
7 p.m. — Bible study fellowship
Wednesday:
11:30 a.m. — Lunchtime study
5 p.m. — Pot luck supper
6 p.m. — Video study
A Case for Kids
Pioneer Clubs
Thursday:
9 a.m. — Ladies Bible Study
For more information, call Ext. 2500.

Family Support Center

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the family support center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call Ext. 2790.)

Spouse welcome

A welcome reception for spouses new to Columbus AFB is from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. every Wednesday at the Magnolia Inn Lobby. Spouses will receive gifts and information about the family support center.

Relocation assistance

Those relocating or making a permanent change of station can stop by the family support center for information about new bases, checklists to make moving easier and suggestions for traveling with children.

Sponsorship training

A workshop designed for all unit introduction monitors is at 9 a.m. Tuesday. Training includes the importance of effective sponsorship and resources available for both sponsors and newcomers.

Hearts Apart social

A social gathering for families of personnel deployed or remote for more than 30 days is at 5:30 p.m. April 27. Information, refreshments and prizes are provided.

Smooth move

A workshop for relocating families is from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. May 2. Participants will learn what to expect from the travel management office, housing, military pay, legal, billeting, TriCare and the family support center.

Resumes

A workshop about different types of resumes and how to write one effectively is from 9 to 10 a.m. May 3.

Local employment

A workshop about employment opportunities with local businesses, the 14th Services Division and government applications is at 1 p.m. every Wednesday. Resumes and other job applications will also be discussed.

Free childcare

The Childcare for PCS program offers up to 20 hours of free childcare per child for active-duty Air Force people arriving at or departing from Columbus AFB. Certificates are available within 60 days of departure or arrival. For more information, call Sharon Nichols at Ext. 2790.

Air Force Aid Society

The AFAS offers 24-hour emergency assistance. Possible aid includes interest-free loans, grants, car repairs and emergency travel. For more information, call the family support center.

Base Notes

Earth Day

An Earth Day Education Fair will be held today from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Freedom Park.

COSC celebration

A Columbus Officer Spouses' Club bingo celebration will be held at 6 p.m. May 9 at the Columbus Club. The menu is stuffed chicken, and cost is \$11.50 with club members receiving a \$2 discount. For reservations, call Jennifer Wood at 425-6059 or e-mail her at woodtjgg@cableone.net by noon May 4. Non-attended reservations will be charged.

Garage sales

On-base garage sales are only permitted the first Saturday of every month. Advertisements for sales are limited to yard signs or ads in the base paper only.

Patient appointment reminder system

The 14th Medical Group now has a patient appointment reminder system to assist with decreasing the current 10 percent no-show rate for scheduled appointments.

The system, called AudioCARE, will enable the 14th MDG to serve better by reducing incoming call traffic, increasing appointment line availability. It will also and improve appointment availability by identifying those who need to cancel their appointment, thus opening more appointments to others.

The reminder system will call a patient's residence beginning two days prior to the scheduled non-acute appointment. It will only identify that a person residing at the home telephone number with a certain birthday has an appointment at the 14th MDG. Patients and providers will not be identified by name to protect privacy. Patients will be given the opportunity to confirm appointment date and time or to cancel if necessary. If a patient chooses to cancel and reschedule, a member of the staff will call them back.

AudioCARE is now being used by the family practice, flight medicine, optometry and radiology clinics. *(Courtesy of the 14th MDG)*

Signs must be no larger than 2 feet by 2 feet. Displaying signs on utility poles and street signs is prohibited. Advertising yard sales in the local media, excluding the base newspaper, is also prohibited.

People may locally advertise individual items for sale, such as automobiles, boats, washers, dryers or refrigerators. Columbus AFB housing areas are located on a federal installation and the civilian public may only enter a military installation on official business, open house functions or social visitations. Yard and carport sales do not fall within these criteria.

Student spouse enrollment

EMCC has designated 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. May 30 as registration for any student pilot spouse wishing to enroll this summer on the GT campus for the Student Pilot Spouse Listening Program. Spouses must call Monica Engel at 243-2672 or Linda Gates at 243-1878 between 8 a.m. and noon Saturday through Monday or April 29 to make an appointment to register on May 30.

her at allison_adair@yahoo.com.

Thrift shop

The base thrift shop is open from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays. Volunteers are needed. Consignments are accepted Thursdays during business hours until one hour before closing. For more information, call Ext. 2954.

Education Open House

Columbus AFB will have an open house for active duty, retired military, Department of Defense civilian employees and military family members from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 9 at the education

office in Room 3. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet with an academic advisor and sign up for summer and fall 2006 distance learning on on-base classes. There will be light-refreshments and door prizes. For questions or more information, call Renee Sanders or Jacqueline Newton at 434-2660 or e-mail rsanders@eastms.edu or jnewton@eastms.edu.

Student spouse enrollment

EMCC has designated 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. May 30 as registration for any student pilot spouse wishing to enroll this summer on the GT campus for the Student Pilot Spouse Listening Program. Spouses must call Monica Engel at 243-2672 or Linda Gates at 243-1878 between 8 a.m. and noon Saturday through Monday or April 29 to make an appointment to register on May 30.

Congrats reenlistees

The 14th Flying Training Wing congratulates the most recent Air Force reenlistees:

Command Chief
Master Sgt. Jeffery Bowes,
14th Flying Training Wing;
Staff Sgt. Christopher Wynn,
14th Mission Support Squadron.

Harper and Morgan Professional Rodeo: This semi-annual event will be held in Lauderdale, Miss., today and Saturday and will feature professional rodeo performances. Concessions will be available. For more information, call (601) 679-8861.

Cake and Catering event show: Local and surrounding area caters and bakers will come together and compete talents at the McAbee Activity Center in Tuscaloosa, Ala., Saturday. There will be cake tastings and chances to win door prizes. The leading baker or caterer will receiver an ultimate baker trophy and a prize valued at \$100. For more information, call (205) 657-4281.

Cotton District Festival and Taste of Starkville: This annual festival will be held in Starkville, Miss., Saturday and will feature a 5k run, pet parade, arts and crafts contest, live music, plant show, art show and food from local restaurants. For more information, call (662) 323-3322.

Open horse show: The Mississippi Horse Park will be holding an open horse show Saturday in Starkville,

Miss. The Mississippi Horse Park is located on 100 acres, south of the Mississippi State University main campus. For more inforamtion, call (662) 325-0508.

Old Main Music Festival: This music festival will be held Saturday in Starkville, Miss., at 6 p.m. and features a variety of up-and-coming and popular bands. For more information, call (662) 323-3322.

Wild Blue Yonder air rides: The Birmingham Aero Club will sponsor this event Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Birmingham, Ala., with air rides and a vintage aircraft display. For more information, call (205) 833-8226.

Little Women: This Broadway musical will be held at the Birmingham Jefferson Convention Complex in Birmingham, Ala., from Tuesday to April 30. For more information, call (205) 458-8401.

MOPS: Mothers of Preschoolers meet each month during the school year on the second and fourth Tuesday from 9 to 11 a.m. for a social and guest speaker. Child

care is provided onsite. For more information on the MOPS group, call 327-2010 or e-mail info@hope.ms.org.

Daily historic home tours: The public is invited to drop by or call the Mississippi Welcome Center or Columbus Historic Foundation for schedules of historic homes open for tours. For admission or more information, call (800) 920-3533.

American Indian Artifacts Museum: This museum is located in Columbus and holds Native American artifacts dating back hundreds and thousands of years. Tours are available to individuals or groups by appointment. For more information, call Byron and Alice Weeks at (662) 251-1125.

Community Volunteer Center: People in search of volunteer opportunities can contact the Community Volunteer Center at 327-0807, or visit the office at 501 Seventh St. North, Suite 5, in the Plaza Building.

For more event listings, visit www.columbusms.org, or www.tupelo.net.

BARGAIN LINE

Bargain Line advertisement

The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.

Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.

Reruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.

Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.

Type of advertisement (circle one) Home Transportation Miscellaneous Yard sales Pets

Print advertisement _____

Name _____

Home Telephone # _____ Duty Telephone # _____
(in case we need more information)

Please let us know what you think of the Silver Wings:

Are you happy with the Silver Wings? Yes ☐ No ☐

What would you like to see more of in the newspaper? News ☐ Sports ☐ Photos ☐ Other _____

If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at silverwings@columbus.af.mil.

Deployed servicemembers participate in Boston Marathon

Master Sgt. Jon Hanson
407th Air Expeditionary Group

ALI BASE, Iraq — Not everyone can run in the Boston Marathon — especially if he or she is deployed. But, for U.S. and coalition forces here, the marathon came to them.

For the second year, the Boston Athletic Association has brought this sanctioned event to Iraq. More than 250 men and women ran either individually or as part of four-person teams here Saturday. The association provided the runners with medals, T-shirts and other items. The Boston Marathon, itself, was held April 17.

One of those runners was Capt. Casey Jackson, with the 407th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron. Captain Jackson, who is deployed here from Ramstein Air Base, Germany, is an avid runner with three international marathons under his belt. The 5-foot-7-inch, 140-pound runner finished first among all Air Force members and second in the individual race with a time of 3 hours, 2 minutes, 17

seconds. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Matt Simms, who had a time of 2:53:35, won the race. He is based at Camp Slayer in Baghdad.

With temperatures reaching nearly 95 degrees — well above the 58 expected in Boston — the 2000 graduate of Western Oregon University said he was doing fine until the 23rd mile. After that, he said, “It was hell.”

“The wind was a little bit stronger than expected,” said Captain Jackson, who ran this race five minutes faster than his personal best. “The tailwind made it hotter. It was easy to glide and keep a fast pace, but it was hotter.”

The captain averaged a 6:57 pace throughout the race, and that included stopping to go the bathroom.

“It’s so hard to be patient out there because it is such a long race and you want to get it finished,” he said.

The 26.2-mile course took runners around Ali Base and Logistical Support Area Adder, past the Ziggurat of Ur, a 4,000-year-old temple in the ancient city of Ur where the Prophet Abraham was born.

The last mile took runners

alongside the runway to make the turn to the finish line. Preparation is the key to running a marathon, Captain Jackson said. He has been running 17 years and running marathons for six years.

“Do your research first and have a training plan that you can adhere to for more than three months,” the captain said. “If you know someone who has ran a marathon, then it is good to talk with them about their experiences in order to get an idea of what you can expect.

“I try to run almost every day, but that doesn’t always happen,” he said. “A typical training day is about eight to 10 miles. My long-run days are anywhere from 14 to 18 miles.”

Not only is training important, but so is diet.

“I eat a ton of bananas along with plenty of carbs and protein, and drink lots of water,” Captain Jackson said. “On race day, I choke down more bananas and a couple of power bars right before and during the race.”

Running that distance takes its toll on a body.

“I’ll probably pass out for a couple of hours in my tent before I



Capt. Casey Jackson receives his medal after finishing second in the 2nd Annual Boston Marathon at Ali Base, Iraq, Saturday.

can rally and make it over to the chow hall to eat whatever is in sight,” he said. “The race depletes your body of almost everything and walking is a slight challenge for the next couple of days.

“The greatest challenge is always mental,” Captain Jackson said. “You feel pain which makes you want to quit. In this case, the

biggest challenge in the desert would have to be the heat.”

“It feels good to (do well in) any event, but this race is special and unique, just because of where we are located and why we are here,” Captain Jackson said. “I feel very fortunate to be running near a place with as much history as Ur while in a combat zone.”



Photos by Master Sgt. Jon Hanson

Capt. Casey Jackson crosses the finish line with a time of 3 hours, 2 minutes, 17 seconds to take second place in the 2nd Annual Boston Marathon at Ali Base, Iraq, on Saturday. Captain Jackson is deployed to the 407th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron from Ramstein AB, Germany.

Sports Shorts

America’s Kids run

This 1.5 mile run will begin at 8 a.m. May 20. All participants must register by May 19 at the youth center and will receive a t-shirt. For more inforamtion, call Ext. 2504.

Baseball registration

The youth center holding sign-ups for baseball and t-ball. Cost is \$25 for members and \$30 for nonmembers. Coaches are needed. Teams are ages 3 and 4, and ages 5 to 7 for T-ball, ages 8 to 10 for coach pitch and ages 11 to 13 for baseball. The baseball season will begin May 30 and end June 30. For more information, call the youth center at Ext. 2504.

Youth Center Fit Factor

This free activity is open to ages 9 to 15, with the chance to win prizes. For more information, visit www.afgetfit.com or call Ext. 2504.